

## [C. H. Krause]

[LM?] [??] [?]

### FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Harold J. Moss ADDRESS 6934 Francis St. Lincoln

DATE February 16, 1939 SUBJECT American Folklore Stuff

1. Name and address of informant C. H. Krause, 2040 Monroe St., Lincoln, Nebraska
2. Date and time of interview Febr. 16, 1939—2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
3. Place of interview Home of informant
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant None
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you None
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

Living room, plainly furnished, small pictures, some calendar prints decorate the walls also whatnots and one carved Indian head profile. Room somewhat cluttered, and has a rather drab atmosphere and suggests its occupancy by elderly people. This house is situated right by the [Book?] Island [??] main line and one could almost reach out and touch the trains as they rumble by. It is located on the shortest street in Lincoln and which is only, in fact, a narrow dead-end alley. The surroundings are bleak and barren, and the view in two directions is limited by the grimy soot-covered walls of two industrial plants and a long stretch of high [?] yards fence, broken only by an occasional coal car or passing train. The

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little Street ([?]) is located between "[?]" and "[M?]" street and extends only from the [????] west a hundred feet or so in the 2000 block.

### FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER Harold J. Moss ADDRESS 6934 Francis St., Lincoln

DATE February 16, 1939 Subject American Folklore Stuff

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT C. H. Krause, 2049 Monroe St., Lincoln

1. Ancestry German-American
2. Place and date of birth Brooklyn, N. Y. 1876
3. Family None at home
4. Places lived with dates Brooklyn, N. Y., 1876 to 1880, Shelby, Nebr., 1800 to 1882, o'Neill, Nebr., Holt Co., 1882 to 1890, Lincoln, Nebr., 1890 to date.
5. Education, with dates Holt Co., grade school, 1883 to 1890; Lincoln, 1890 to 1892.
6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates Farm and ranch work to 1890; plumbing, construction work, 1890 to 1907.
7. Special skills and interests Sewer inspection and construction and repair work. Also [?] of sewer lines and man-hole openings, 1907 to date.
8. Community and religious activities Lutheran Church
9. Description of informant Heavy set, powerful built, broad features, medium tall. Has one eye injured and stares off to one side, probably sightless. This contributes to a rough, heavy,

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10. Other points gained in interview course appearance of features, but actually Mr. Krause is [directially?] opposite in disposition and action, and is very interesting and well informed talker, one who gains in your estimation as you spend time with him. Likes to talk and discuss worldly affairs and deeper subject. Seems of good moral timber and interested in human welfare.

### FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

There were a good many Irish around o'Neill and they often talked about snakes and how St. Patrick drove them out of Ireland. They way they tell it the soil was cursed for snakes and some snakes could live on it. A man in Omaha, it is said, has a box of soil from Ireland and several [??] one your neighbors claims, he placed snakes in this box and they died quick. The cowboys think that if they lay down a coil of rope around their bed. That no snake will crawl over it, but snakes just don't crawl at night so it seems to work then.

The cowboys in western Nebraska have a treatment for rattlesnake bite. The trick is to kill the snake which bites you and cut off his head. This must be done before he can bite himself. Then the snakes is split through the body lengthwise and wrapped around the bite. The raw flesh of the snake absorbs the poison.

I know of one or two cases where a "red stone" was used but it didn't work too good. "Red stones" were not so numerous and people sometimes traveled a long way to find one, sometimes for dog bite.

They were sort of a green stone and they have [?] here, which right [?] the right kind. They came from old mill stone.

An old Sioux Indian up that way used to come to Lincoln for salt. He said salt and some magic [water?] and would even keep off cyclones. He told us Lincoln would never have a cyclone on account of the salt flats. I never heard of one here either.

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"[???] John" was a neighbor of ours. He was a Dutchman and liked his wooden shoes.

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[?]The Irish had a wake there [?????] and managed to all get pretty drunk. The time for the funeral came and they loaded the corpse and a few jugs of whiskey into a light wagon and started for the burial ground.

When they got to the cemetery, they missed the corpse but still had their whiskey.

Something had to done about this so they set out to hunt for the body. This delayed the services but after a time they found the coffin and corpse and the funeral was carried on. Most of the mourners had their grief pretty well drowned and even thought it would fine to bury a jug [?]of whiskey with the coffin. But their supply was getting low so some objected to wasting a full jug this way. They settled the argument by drinking the whiskey and leaving the jug on the grave.

When we moved to Lincoln there was a mill and dam on Salt Creek north and east of the Fair grounds.

[???], was a small stream and [?] of sloughs, which started near Belmont and ran into Salt Creek east and north of there. It was named this because of so many rattlesnakes which lived around it in the timber. The whole thing is different now and [??] one.

It would be good if they [????] back and did it in [?] a little slower and [?] more work. That will have to come sometime as the population increases.

[illegible paragraph?]

[illegible paragraph?]